

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. An information handling system having improved multimedia
2 performance, the information handling system comprising:
3 plural processing components operable to process information for presentation
4 to a user;
5 an operating system operable to coordinate operation of the processing
6 components;
7 a multimedia application operable to interface with predetermined of the
8 processing components through the operating system to present
9 multimedia information;
10 a multimedia mode selector interfaced with one or more of the processing
11 components and operable to accept a user selection of a multimedia
12 mode of operation; and
13 a multimedia module interfaced with the multimedia mode selector and the
14 operating system, the multimedia module operable to boot the
15 processing components and operating system to the multimedia mode
16 upon selection through the multimedia mode selector, the multimedia
17 mode having substantially only the predetermined of the processing
18 components configured to run in support of the multimedia application.

1 2. The information handling system of Claim 1 wherein the
2 predetermined of the processing components comprise a CPU, memory, video
3 devices, audio devices and input devices.

1 3. The information handling system of Claim 2 wherein the processing
2 components excluded from boot by the multimedia module comprise a network
3 interface card, a wireless network interface, and a modem.

1 4. The information handling system of Claim 2 wherein the
2 predetermined of the processing components further comprise a DVD disc drive and
3 the multimedia application comprises a DVD movie player.

1 5. The information handling system of Claim 4 wherein the
2 predetermined processing components further comprise a hard disc drive storing the
3 operating system and the multimedia module is further operable to initiate power to
4 spin-up the DVD disc drive substantially simultaneous with initiation of power to the
5 hard disc drive to boot the operating system.

1 6. The information handling system of Claim 2 wherein the multimedia
2 module is further operable to reduce CPU clock speed after boot of the predetermined
3 processing components to an operational state.

1 7. The information handling system of Claim 1 further comprising:
2 one or more utility applications automatically initiated by the operating
3 system;
4 wherein the multimedia module is further operable to disable automatic
5 initiation of the utility applications in the multimedia mode.

1 8. The information handling system of Claim 7 wherein the utility
2 applications comprise an antivirus application.

1 9. The information handling system of Claim 1 further comprising:
2 a power switch interfaced with the operating system and operable to accept a
3 user selection of a normal mode of operation, the normal mode having
4 the operating system boot substantially all of the processing
5 components after a POST;
6 wherein the multimedia module disables the POST for boots to the multimedia
7 mode.

1 10. A method for booting an information handling system to a multimedia
2 mode, the method comprising:
3 selecting a multimedia mode to present multimedia information at the
4 information handling system;

5 modifying boot of the information handling system operating system to enable
6 multimedia devices and disable non-multimedia devices; and
7 running a multimedia application with the operating system and the
8 multimedia devices to display multimedia information.

1 11. The method of Claim 10 further comprising:
2 disabling one or more non-multimedia applications that are otherwise
3 automatically initiated by the operating system.

1 12. The method of Claim 11 wherein the non-multimedia applications
2 comprise an antivirus application.

1 13. The method of Claim 10 wherein modifying boot of the information
2 handling system further comprises:
3 enabling the CPU, memory, video, audio, input and disc drive devices; and
4 disabling the network interface card, wireless interface and modem devices.

1 14. The method of Claim 13 wherein the multimedia information
2 comprises a movie presented from a DVD disc.

1 15. The method of Claim 10 wherein modifying boot of the information
2 handling system further comprises bypassing the POST otherwise automatically
3 initiated by the BIOS.

1 16. The method of Claim 10 further comprising:
2 operating the CPU at full performance to complete the modified boot and the
3 initiation of the presentation of multimedia information; and
4 throttling the CPU performance to present the multimedia information with
5 reduced power consumption.

1 17. The method of Claim 10 further comprising:
2 hiding non-multimedia devices from the operating system to prevent the
3 operating system from trying to power-up unused devices.

1 18. A system for enhancing multimedia information presentation at an
2 information handling system, the information handling system having plural devices
3 controlled in a normal mode of operation by an operating system, the system
4 comprising:
5 a multimedia selector switch operable to accept selection of a multimedia
6 mode of operation; and
7 a multimedia module interfaced with the multimedia selector and operable to
8 boot the operating system to a multimedia mode of operation having
9 selected devices enabled and selected devices disabled, the selected
10 enabled devices supporting display of multimedia information.

1 19. The system of Claim 18 wherein the information handling system
2 further comprises plural applications running on top of the operating system after boot
3 to the normal mode of operation, and wherein the multimedia module is further
4 operable to boot the operating system to a multimedia mode of operation having
5 selected of the applications enabled and selected of the applications disabled, the
6 selected enabled applications supporting display of multimedia information.

1 20. The system of Claim 19 further comprising a multimedia configuration
2 GUI interfaced with the multimedia module and operable to selectively configure one
3 or more of the devices and applications as enabled or disabled.